

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12-15, 18-21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, and 45 are pending in this application. Claims 3-8, 11, 16, 17, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, and 43 are canceled. Claims 1, 9, 10, 12, 18-21, 23, 24, 26, 29, 30, 32, 35, 36, 38, 41, 42, and 44 are amended.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 – Kato et al.

Claims 1-6, 16 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0145702 (Kato et al.). The Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner, on page 8 of the Office Action, admits Kato fails to disclose the presentation data includes at least the still picture and related data associated with the still picture. Accordingly, the Applicants submit the Examiner cannot rely on Kato for disclosing “the presentation data being divided into a number of still picture units, **the still picture units including at least a still picture and associated related data**,” as recited in claim 1 and 18 - 21. For at least this reason, the Applicants submit Kato cannot be relied on for anticipating claims 1 and 18-21.

For at least the reasons given above, the Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1 and 18-21, and all claims which depend thereon, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kato be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) – Kato et al./Ando et al.

Claims 8-15 and 22-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kato et al. as applied to claims 1 and 18-21, and further in view of Ando et al (USP 7,054,545). The Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner, on page 8 of the Office Action, admits Kato fails to disclose the presentation data includes at least the still picture and related data associated with the still picture. Accordingly, the Applicants submit the Examiner cannot rely on Kato for disclosing “a data area storing first and second stream files, the first stream file including presentation data..., the presentation data being divided into a number of still picture units, **the still picture units including at least a still picture and associated related data**,” as recited in claim 1.

On page 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner generally alleged that Ando discloses a data area storing at least one stream file for presentation data (FIGS. 1 and 7, column 5, lines 29-33), the presentation data being divided into a number of still picture units, each still picture unit including at least one still picture and associated related data, the related data not including audio data (FIGS. 1 and 11). Initially, the Applicants note that FIGS. 1, 7, and 11 fail to disclose still picture units. Rather, these figures show still pictures (ASVOBS) instead of still picture units. Even if the still pictures were considered still picture units, the Applicants note that Ando fails to disclose that they include related data not including audio data. Accordingly, the Applicants submit Ando fails to disclose “a data area storing first and second stream files, the first stream file including presentation data..., the presentation data being divided into a number of still picture units, **the still picture units including at least a still picture and associated related data**,” as recited in claim 1. Additionally, the Applicants also submit that column 5, lines 29-33 likewise fails to disclose still picture units.

Because neither Kato nor Ando teach, suggest, or disclose “a data area storing first and second stream files, the first stream file including presentation data..., the presentation data being divided into a number of still picture units, **the still picture units including at least a still picture and associated related data**,” as recited in claim 1, the Applicants submit the combination of Kato and Ando cannot render at claim 1 obvious. For somewhat similar reasons, the Applicants submit claims 18-21 are likewise nonobvious over the combination of Kato and Ando. Furthermore, the Applicants submit all claims depending from claims 1 and 18-21 are likewise nonobvious over Kato in view of Ando at least by virtue of their dependency on their respective base claims.

Even if the above feature were taught by Ando (which is not admitted), the Applicants submit claim 1 is still not obvious over Kato in view of Ando at least because neither reference, teaches, suggests, or discloses “reproducing the audio data asynchronously and independently from the still picture unit,” as recited in claim 1.

Ando discloses a method of playing back audio information and picture data, however, Ando’s method reproduces the audio data synchronously with still picture data (see at least column 5, lines 38-54 and column 7, lines 30-37). Accordingly, the

Applicants submit Ando cannot be relied on for disclosing “reproducing the audio data asynchronously and independently from the still picture unit,” as recited in claim 1.

Kato discloses a method of playing back audio information and video data, however, Kato’s method reproduces the audio data synchronously with the video data (see at least paragraph [0137]). Accordingly, the Applicants submit Kato cannot be relied on for disclosing reproducing the audio data asynchronously and independently from the still picture unit,” as recited in claim 1.

Because neither Ando nor Kato teach, suggest, or disclose “reproducing the audio data asynchronously and independently from the still picture unit,” as recited in claim 1, the Applicants submit the combination of Ando and Kato cannot render claim 1 obvious. For somewhat similar reasons, the Applicants submit claims 18-21 are likewise nonobvious over the combination of Kato and Ando. Accordingly, the Applicants submit all claims depending from claims 1 and 18-21 are likewise nonobvious over Kato in view of Ando at least by virtue of their dependency on their respective base claims.

For at least the reasons given above, the Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1 and 18-21, and all claims which depend thereon, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Kato in view of Ando be withdrawn.

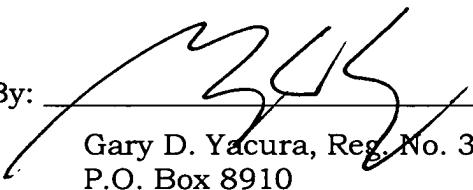
CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
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